



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

MEMO

Date: September 13, 2017
From: Laura Jester, Administrator
To: BCWMC Commissioners
RE: **Administrator's Report**

Aside from this month's agenda items, the Commission Engineers, city staff, committee members, and I continue to work on the following Commission projects and issues.

CIP Projects (more resources at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects.>)

2017 Plymouth Creek Restoration Project, Annapolis Lane to 2,500 feet Upstream (2017CR-P): All project documents including the feasibility study and 90% design plans are available online at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?CID=284>. The BCWMC executed agreements with the BWSR for a \$400,000 Clean Water Fund grant and with Hennepin County for a \$50,000 Opportunity Grant and a subgrant agreement with the City was executed. Project design was recently completed by the city's contractor, Wenck Associates, with 60% and 90% design plans being approved by the Commission at the April and August 2017 meetings, respectively. The Plymouth City Council gave approval to bid the project. Bid documents will be submitted soon, with a bid opening scheduled for early October. The City is applying for permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources. The project is slated for construction this winter.

2017 Main Stem Bassett Creek Streambank Erosion Repair Project (2017CR-M): The feasibility study for this project was approved at the April Commission meeting and the final document is available on the project page at: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?CID=281>. A Response Action Plan to address contaminated soils in the project area was completed by Barr Engineering with funding from Hennepin County and was reviewed and approved by the MPCA. The Commission was awarded an Environmental Response Fund grant from Hennepin County for \$150,300 and a grant agreement is in the process of being signed by the county. A subgrant agreement with the City will be developed. The City hired Barr Engineering to design and construct the project. Fifty-percent designs were approved at the August Commission meeting. Minneapolis staff and I will present design plans to the Harrison Neighborhood Association's Glenwood Revitalization Team committee on September 13th. A public open house on the project will be held on [September 19th](#). 90% designs will be presented at the October Commission meeting.

2013 Four Season Area Water Quality Project/Agora Development (NL-2): At their meeting in December 2016, the Commission took action to contribute up to \$830,000 of Four Seasons CIP funds for stormwater management at the Agora development on the old Four Seasons Mall location. At their February 2017 meeting the Commission approved an agreement with Rock Hill Management and an agreement with the City of Plymouth allowing the developer access to a city-owned parcel to construct a wetland restoration project and to ensure ongoing maintenance of the CIP project components. At the August 2017 meeting, the Commission approved the 90% design plans for the CIP portion of the project.

2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project, Golden Valley (SL-3): (No update since August 2017) Last August (2016), the Commission Engineer reported that the structure had been vandalized and repair was needed. The City executed a change order with Sunram Construction (the contractor for the project) to add weights to some of the baffle anchors; which was accomplished this spring. Unfortunately, city staff recently noticed that another

anchor had pulled out. This was an anchor that had not been given the extra weights this spring. Based on discussions with the Commission Engineer, the City is recommending adding weights to all remaining anchors and reinstalling the anchor that has pulled out. The city is waiting to hear from the Sunram Construction about a time line to complete the work. Depending on the response, the City may decide to complete the work with its own staff. The contractor has some final vegetation establishment to complete before the contract can be closed. Erosion control will be removed once the final stabilization is completed. This summer, the Commission Engineer is monitoring the effectiveness of the pond.

2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2): (No update since January.) At their March 2015 meeting, the Commission approved the project specifications and directed the city to finalize specifications and solicit bids for the project. The contract was awarded to HAB Aquatic Solutions. The alum treatment spanned two days: May 18- 19, 2015 with 15,070 gallons being applied. Water temperatures and water pH stayed within the desired ranges for the treatment. Early transparency data from before and after the treatment indicates a change in Secchi depth from 1.2 meters before the treatment to 4.8 meters on May 20th. There were no complaints or comments from residents during or since the treatment. Water monitoring continues to determine if and when a second alum treatment is necessary. Lake monitoring this summer will help determine if a second dose of alum is needed to retain water quality.

2015 Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley (2015CR): (No update since June.) The restoration project is being constructed in two phases, each under separate contract. Phase one included stream bank shaping, placement of field stone rock and 12-inch bio-logs, and repair of storm sewer outlets. The first phase of the project began in November 2015 and was finished in June 2016. Turf establishment and minor restoration repairs in Phase 1 were accepted in late October 2016. Repairs to some areas where flooding impacted rocks or biologs were completed and accepted in mid-December 2016. Phase 1 of the construction project has entered the warranty period.

Phase 2 of the project includes the establishment of native vegetation along the stream, including grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, live stakes and fascines, and cordgrass plugs. The second phase of the contract, Native Buffer Vegetation installation is underway. The project has been seeded and stabilized and maintenance mowing and spot treatments have been completed. Applied Ecological Services (AES) installed live stakes and fascines this spring and completed the tree and shrub planting along the restoration project. AES will continue to monitor and maintain the native vegetation through 2018. It is anticipated that the total contract amount for both Phase one and Phase two will be within the Watershed's overall project budget.

2016 Northwood Lake Improvement Project, New Hope (NL-1): (No update since August.) Northwood Lake Improvement Project is nearing completion with all major work complete. The storm water tank was fully operational in June and will be irrigating the fields for the summer. The educational sign is being designed and will be installed soon. The 2nd rain garden was planted with the fescue grass in June.

I recently submitted grant audit materials to MPCA which were approved. A grand opening of the park was held on May 15th. Friends of Northwood Lake disseminated water quality educational materials, including BCWMC materials. A semi-annual grant report was submitted to the MPCA last month.

Photos and construction progress are available at: <http://www.ci.new-hope.mn.us/departments/publicworks/2016infrastructure.shtml>

2016 Honeywell Pond Expansion Project, Golden Valley (BC-4): (No update since June.) In spring 2016, the Honeywell Pond Project was bid as part of the City of Golden Valley and Hennepin County's Douglas Drive (CSAH 102) Reconstruction Project. The reconstruction project began in June 2016. Excavation of the pond basin is complete and the disturbed soils around the pond were temporarily stabilized. The force main work was recently

completed. WSB and Park Construction are finalizing the shop drawings for the lift station. The connection to Sandburg Athletic Complex was bid as part of the Douglas Drive Landscaping Project. Hoffman & McNamara are in the process of finalizing the irrigation system and will make the connection at Honeywell Pond. Final stabilization of the Pond will be completed this fall.

2018 Bassett Creek Park Pond & Winnetka Pond Dredging, Crystal (BCP-2): (See Items 5A and 6A) The final feasibility study for this project was approved at the May 2017 meeting and is now available on the project page online at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cid=403>. Hennepin County Commissioners recently approved the 2018 maximum levy request for this project. At this meeting the Commission will hold a public hearing on the project and consider a resolution to order the project and enter an agreement for design and construction with the City of Crystal.

Other Work

Administrative, Financial, CIP Projects:

- Reviewed and revised Watershed Plan and posted amended sections online to incorporate recent plan amendment, floodplain elevation changes, and linear project requirement changes
- Distributed public hearing notice to official publications
- Coordinated with City of Minneapolis and Harrison Neighborhood Association (HNA) to schedule public open house, distribute postcards to residents, and provide project update to HNA committee for Main Stem Erosion Repair Project
- Wrote TAC recommendation memo, distributed for review, and coordinated with legal counsel regarding review fee structure
- Participated in the meeting for BWSR's Local Government Roundtable Workgroup
- Reviewed and provided comments on proposals for feasibility studies on 2019 CIP projects
- Toured DeCola Ponds area with Commission Engineer and Golden Valley staff (2019 CIP project area)

Education:

- Attended WMWA monthly meeting and gathered articles for WMWA newsletter
- Coordinated with education consultant and Golden Valley staff re: creek signs at road crossings
- Assisted with recruitment for Winter Maintenance Training event and Master Water Stewards
- Met with Metro Blooms and MPRB staff for update on Harrison Neighborhood Project and discussion of possible future restoration project in Bassett Creek Park
- Coordinated volunteers and display materials for Golden Valley Arts and Music Festival
- Designed and ordered "salt cups" for event giveaways